Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 OIC-02 AF-06

ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 IOE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /110 W ----- 029210

P 111622Z FEB 76 FM AMEMBASSY LONDON TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8903 INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL PRIORITY AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PORG, ICAO

SUBJECT: ICAO SECRETARY GENERAL CANDIDACY

REF: STATE 32687

1. WE INFORMED O. I. GREEN, ASST. SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF TRADE OF U.S. DECISION TO NOMINATE MRS. DILLON FOR ELECTION TO THE POST OF SECRETARY GENERAL OF ICAO. GREEN CLEARLY SURPRISED BY NEWS AND FROM HIS REACTION IT EVIDENT THAT U.S. DECISION PRESENTS SOME DIFFICULTY FOR UK. ALTHOUGH BRITISH CONSIDER MRS. DILLON FULLY QUALIFIED FOR LOB AND IN OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD BE HAPPY TO SUPPORT HER FOR IT, PRESENCE IN THE RACE OF APPARENTLY WELL-OUALIFIED FRENCH CANDIDATE POSES SERIOUS PROBLEM. BRITISH HAVE MADE NO COMMITMENT TO FRENCH CANDIDATE BUT THEY ARE OBVIOUSLY WORRIED THAT COMPETITION BETWEEN TWO STRONQ, QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FROM MAJOR AVIATION NATIMNS COULD SPLIT VOTE OF AVIATION COUNTRIES AND ALLOW IN THIRD-WORLD CANDIDATE.

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2. BRITISH WMULD DEFINITELY PREFER TO HAVE GENEVA

GROUP COUNTRIES AGREE ON SUPPORT FOR A SINQLE CANDIDATE. IN THIS CONNEATION, GREEN ASKED WHETHER U.S. HAD SOUNDED OUT FRENCH ON POSSIBILITY OF WITHDRAWING FRENCH CANDIDATE. IF SO AND IF FRENCH SEEM SO INCLINED, GREEN SAID UK MIGHT BE ABLE TO FURTHER INFLUENCE THEM. GREEN ALSO ASKED WHETHER U.S. COULD COUNT ON SUPPORT FOR MRS. DILLON FPOM LATIN-AMERICAN ICAO COUNCIL MEMBERS. GREEN SAID HE THOUGHT FRENCH CANDIDATE MAY BE WEAK AMONG LATIN AMERICANS AND THEREFORE IF U.S. COULD LINE UP LATIN AMERICANS THIS COULD BE VERY IMPORTANT FACTOR IN GETTING SUPOORT FROM OTHER GENEVA QROUP COUNTRIES AND ULTIMATELY INFLUENCING FRENCH CANDIDATE TO STAND DOWN.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION WE COULD SUPPLY BRITISH ON HOW MATTERS STAND VIS-A-VIS FRENCH AND LATIN AMERICALS ON U.S. CANDIDACY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: SECRETARY GENERAL, ELECTION CANDIDATES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 11 FEB 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LONDON02176

Document Number: 1976LONDON02176
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760052-0002 From: LONDON

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760260/aaaacana.tel Line Count: 79 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION IO

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 STATE 32687 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: morefirh

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 29 MAR 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a Review History: RELEASED <29 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ICAO SECRETARY GENERAL CANDIDACY TAGS: PORG, EAIR, US, FR, ICAO, (DILLON, BETTY C)
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006